- CRAWFORD COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT CRAWFORD COUNTY, OHIO 2211661 W Case No.: ( KEVIN W. PHILLIPS 360 N Wiley St Crestline, OH 44827 JUDGE: Plaintiff, Magistrate: ٧. MIDLAND FUNDING LLC Csc-Lawyers Incorporating Service (Corporation Service Company) 50 W. Broad St., Ste. 1800 CRAWFORD COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT BUCYRUS, OHIO Columbus, OH 43215, Defendant. I. Parties

- 1. Plaintiff Kevin W. Phillips ("Mr. Phillips") is a natural person residing in Crawford County, Ohio.
- Defendant Midland Funding LLC ("Midland") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. At all times relevant, Midland used the name "Midland Funding DE LLC".
- 3. Midland regularly sends mail to Ohio residents to attempt to collect debts.
- 4. Midland regularly utilizes Ohio courts to attempt to collect debts.
- 5. Midland regularly attempts to collect debts which Midland acquires or claims it acquires after default.
- 6. At all times relevant to this case, Midland was a "debt collector" as defined by the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

## II. Factual Allegations

- 7. In September of 2005, Mr. Phillips signed a revolving loan agreement with Beneficial Ohio Inc. Mr. Phillips was not able to keep up with certain payments on the loan (the "Alleged Debt").
- 8. The Alleged Debt was incurred for Mr. Phillips's personal, family and household use.
- On October 15, 2009, Midland filed a civil law suit against Mr. Phillips to collect the Alleged Debt in the Crawford County Municipal Court in Crawford County, Ohio, assigned case number CVF 09-1263 (the "Collection Suit").
- 10. Midland claimed in the Collection Suit that Midland was an assignee of the creditor for the Alleged Debt.
- 11. In the Collection Suit, Midland claimed that it was "entitled to recover the amount owed by" Mr. Phillips on the Alleged Debt.
- 12. In the Collection Suit, Midland claimed that Mr. Phillips owed Midland \$8,795.76.
- 13. Upon information and belief, at the time Midland filed the Collection Suit, Midland was not an assignee of the creditor for the Alleged Debt.
- 14. Upon information and belief, at the time Midland filed the Collection Suit, Midland was not "entitled to recover the amount owed by" Mr. Phillips on the Alleged Debt.
- 15. Upon information and belief, at the time Midland filed the Collection Suit, Mr. Phillips did not owe Midland \$8,795.76.
- 16. Mr. Phillips hired legal counsel to defend him in the Collection Suit.
- 17. After Mr. Phillips's attorneys responded to the Collection Suit complaint, and demanded discovery from Midland, Midland dismissed the Collection Suit.

18. As a result of Midland's actions, Mr. Phillips has suffered actual damages, including but not limited to, legal expenses for defending against the Collection Suit, stress, frustration, and aggravation.

## III. Violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692

- 19. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above allegations.
- 20. The actions of Midland were deceptive, unfair, and unconscionable.
- 21. As a result of the above violations of the FDCPA, Mr. Phillips suffered actual damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered against Midland for the following:

- A. Actual damages as determined by the trier of fact.
- B. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
- C. Court costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
- D. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted.

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